

REMARKS

Claims 5-9 and 11 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 5-9 and 11 are amended. No new matter is added by these amendments. Claims 1-4 and 10 are canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited therein.

Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicant appreciates that the Office Action indicates that claims 5-9 and 11 recite allowable subject matter, and base the above amendments on this indication.

The Office Action objects to the specification because the title of the invention is not descriptive. The title has been amended to obviate the objection. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the title of the specification.

The Office Action objects to claims 3-5, 7-9 and 11 for informalities. Claims 5, 7-9 and 11 have been amended to obviate the objection to these claims. Claims 3-4 are canceled, and therefore, the objection to these claims is moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections to the claims.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for being indefinite. Claims 5-9 and 11 are amended to obviate the rejection. Claims 1-4 and 10 are canceled, and therefore, the rejection of these claims is moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, rejection.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,903,780 to Fushimi. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Specifically by this Amendment, claims 1-4 and 10 are canceled, and therefore, the rejection of these claims, are moot.

Based on the above amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 5 and 11 define patentable subject matter. Claims 6-9 depend from allowable claim 5, and therefore, also define patentable subject matter, as well as for the additional features they recite. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdrawal the 35 U.S.C. §102(b) rejection.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and continued allowance of claims 5-9 and 11 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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